

## REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to conform with U.S. practice. New claims 15-28 correspond to previously canceled claims 2-14, respectively. By action taken here, Applicants in no way intend to surrender any range of equivalents beyond that needed to patentably distinguish the claimed invention as a whole over the prior art. Applicants expressly reserve all such equivalents that may fall in the range between Applicants' literal claim recitations and combinations taught or suggested by the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/25/02

By: Christopher J. Voci

Michael B. Stewart (Reg. No. 36,018)  
Christopher J. Voci (Reg. No. 45,184)  
Rader, Fishman & Grauer PLLC  
39533 Woodward Avenue, Suite 140  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304  
Attorney for Applicant

Customer No. 010291

Telephone No. (248) 594-0600

MARK UP COPY OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

1. ~~Connecting device (1), particularly A~~ quick-connect device for connecting fluid lines comprising: ,with

a first connecting element (2) that includes an annular first support surface, an inclined surface, and a line channel, (4) and that features an annular receptacle space (15) with a first an annular, axial sealing surface (17) and a second radial sealing surface (18); ~~wherein the connecting element (2) features an annular first support surface (21) and an inclined surface (44),~~

with an annular sealing element (19) that is arranged in the receptacle space (15) and adapted to contact that contacts the first and second sealing surfaces (17, 18),

with a second connecting element (3) that includes a third line channel (5) and that features an annular, axial sealing surface (23) ~~for the sealing element (19)~~ and an annular second support surface adapted to contact (24) that contacts the first annular support surface (21) ~~in the assembled state of the connecting device (1), and~~

with a wedge-clamping device that includes a clamping wedge (28, 2, 2a) with a wedge element (28) that features at least one wedge (3-1) with a wedge surface adapted to contact (34) for axial clamping of the connecting elements (2, 3) against each other, wherein the wedge (34) of the wedge (3-1) and the inclined surface (44) of the first connecting element (2) contact each other in the assembled state.